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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 27 April 2017

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/71/L.61/Rev.1 and Add.1)*]

71/284. World Creativity and Innovation Day

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the Charter of the United Nations, including the purposes and principles contained therein, and the functions and powers of the United Nations system, especially in promoting international cooperation in the economic, social, cultural, educational and health fields,

Recalling the Constitution of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which states that the organization, as part of its purposes and functions, will maintain, increase and diffuse knowledge by encouraging cooperation among the nations in all branches of intellectual activity,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets,

Reaffirming also the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled "The future we want",[1]

Underlining the need to focus on the importance of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular in promoting innovation, creativity and decent work for all, as recognized in its resolution 71/279 of 6 April 2017,

Acknowledging that innovation is essential for harnessing the economic potential of each nation and the importance of supporting mass entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, which create new momentum for economic growth and job creation and expand opportunities for all, including women and youth,

Recalling the report of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on culture and sustainable development,[2] in which it is stated that cultural and creative industries should be part of economic growth strategies,

[1] Resolution 66/288, annex.
[2] See A/69/216.

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Recalling also its resolutions 54/120 of 17 December 1999 on policies and programmes involving youth, 68/220 of 20 December 2013 on science, technology and innovation for development and 68/223 of 20 December 2013 on culture and sustainable development,

Recalling further its resolutions 53/199 of 15 December 1998 and 61/185 of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years and Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries,

Taking note of the findings contained in the special edition of the Creative Economy Report, co-published by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Development Programme through the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation in November 2013, in which it is stated that human creativity and innovation, at both the individual and group levels, have become the true wealth of nations in the twenty-first century,

Taking note also of the declaration adopted in Florence, Italy, on 4 October 2014, at the third United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization World Forum on Culture and Cultural Industries, and the call therein to take action in global partnership to promote creative environments, processes and products,

Recognizing that sustainable development is a holistic concept that requires the strengthening of interdisciplinary linkages in the different branches of knowledge,

Recognizing also that citizens and organizations in more than 50 countries around the world already observe World Creativity and Innovation Day, which was first commemorated on 21 April 2002,

1. *Decides* to designate 21 April as World Creativity and Innovation Day;

2. *Invites* all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations and individuals, to observe the Day in an appropriate manner and in accordance with national priorities, in order to raise awareness of the role of creativity and innovation in problem-solving and, by extension, economic, social and sustainable development;

3. *Stresses* that the cost of all activities that may arise from the implementation of the present resolution should be met from voluntary contributions;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations and individuals.

79th plenary meeting
27 April 2017